quer, due to decay of timber lying in the forest;

(b) whether soil is likely to be poisoned on account of timber rots; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to remove timber logs from forests, in order to save I natural habitat as well as soil pollution?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SUR-ESH PRABHU): (a) Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 15.1.1998 in Writ Petition No. 202/95 has issued detailed directions to regulate felling, transportation and processing of timber in the North-Eastern States. Necessary steps have been taken to expedite transportation and disposal of felled timber in conformity with the said directions. The loss in monetary value of felled timber due to deterioration in the quality of timber lying in forests can not be quantified.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Rail connection for Sundergarh in Orissa

*299. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sundergarh district headquarters in Orissa has not been provided with rail link;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to connect Jharsuguda with Bis-rampur via Sundergarh by rail;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a)Yes, Sir. Even though Sundergarh Town, district headquarters of Sundergarh, has not been provided with rail link, the Mumbai—Calcutta main line passes through Sundergarh District and the rail users in the district are served by Rourkela and bondamunda stations. The District is also served by the railway line from Bon-damunda to Ranchi and from Bondamunda to Barsuan via Bimlagarh.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Constraint of resources.

Licences for Hunting Endangered Species

*300. SHRI AKHILESH DAS:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in the 'Tribune' of 4th August, 1998, captioned "Where Government gives licence to kill";

(b) if so, whether hunting of endangered species is allowed in different States, including Jammu and Kashmir under licence issued by the State Govern ments as a royal sport, on payment of prescribed fees for the so called Small games, Big games and Special games;

(c) whether the bound shahtoos trade is also allowed in J&K under licence; and

(d) whether Government have laid down any national policy to protect the endangered species and for prevention of cruelty to animals; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SUR-ESH PRABHU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hunting of animals included in Schedules II, III & IV under Jammu & Kashmir Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1978 is allowed in Jammu & Kashmir under licences issued by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Trade in wild animals is regulated through the provisions of Wildlife (Pro-tection) Act, 1972 which extends to all the States/UTs except J&K. Prevention or cruelty to animals is regulated through the provisions of The Prevention of

Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 which extends to all the States/UTs except J&K.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

2171. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of Amikacin, Dexiropropoxyphene, Dicsmin and Mefenemic Acid formulations have either not been fixed or they are being over-charged;

(b) when the prices were fixed and what are the current prices of leading formulators;

(c) whether it is a fact that top bureaucrats of his Ministry are involved in this game of public being looted; and

(d) the details in this regard and who is responsible for the lapses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) to (d) Prices of formulations based on Amikacin, Dextropropoxyphene and Diosmin have been fixed/revised from time to time under provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 as at Annexure *[See* Appendix 185, Annexure No. 54] Prices of formulations based on Mefenamic Acid could hot be fixed as the matter was sub-judice. Since September, 1997, Amikacin and Mefenamic Acid have been excluded from the list of price controlled drugs as per the criteria given in the 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986' announced in September, 1994. No case of overcharging has been noticed by the Government with reference to the above drugs.

उर्वरक उत्पादन की दर

2172.**श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ल**: क्या रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वित्तीय वर्ष 1997-98 और जून-दिसम्बर,98 के दौरान उर्वरक उत्पादन की वास्तविक दर क्या थीं;

(ख) उत्पादन में तेजी से गिरावट आने के क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) वर्ष 1998-99 के दौरान विकास दर संबंधी लक्ष्य और अनुमानित वास्तविक उपलब्धि की दर कितनी हैं;

(घ) उर्वरक उत्पादनकी गति बढ़ाने के लिए क्या सकारात्मक कदम उठाए जाने का प्रस्ताव हैं;और

(ड़) सरकार इस अवधि के दौरान कितनी मात्रा में उर्वरकों का आयात करने का विचार रखती हैं ?

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा.ए.के.पटेल) (क) से (ग) 1997-98,जून-नवम्बर,1998 के दौरान उर्वरक की वास्तविक दर और 1998-99 के लिए अनुमानित उत्पादन नीचे दिया गया है :

(लाख टन में)

	लक्ष्य	वास्तविक	लक्ष्य की %प्राप्ति
1997-98			
नाइट्रोजन	96.10	100.86	105.0
फास्फेट	28.60	29.76	104.1
जून-नवम्बर1998			
नाइट्रोजन	54.55	53.54	98.2
फास्फेट	15.35	15.45	100.7
1998-99 (अनुमानित)			
नाइट्रोजन	106.87	104.26	97.6
फास्फेट	30.27	29.98	99.0

1997-98 के दौरान नाइट्रोजनी और फास्फेटिक दोनों उर्वरकों का उत्पादन निष्पादन अच्छा था किंतु निम्नलिखित कारणों से खरीफ 1998 के दौरान उत्पादन-निष्पादन लक्ष्य से कम था।

(i) हजीरा में बाढ़ आने के कारण 17 से 23 सितम्बर,1998 की अवधि के लिए ओ एन जी सी से प्राकृतिक गैस की कमी के कारण कृभको